

After you have read the Times kindly hand it to some friend who has never heard of this part of Alberta. Sample copies sent free to parties interested in Oil or Mixed Farming.

IRMA TIMES

THE ALBERTA OIL GAZETTE

Vol. 6; No. 40.

Irma, Alberta, Friday, January 26th, 1923.

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Edmonton Journal Editor Switched on Wrong Track ---Should Have Real Facts

Last Friday The Edmonton Journal published the following editorial which should be resented by every independent oil man and automobile owner in Alberta.

THE IMPERIAL OIL CO'S WORK

"The letter which the president of the Imperial Oil company sent to the Vancouver Sun, in reply to some articles which appeared recently in its columns, should have the effect of silencing such criticisms. They are not for the public good. While the company is seeking to promote its own interests, its extensive program of exploration is also very much in the interests of the whole country as well. Oil will never be found unless somebody takes the risk involved in drilling. The Imperial people have already spent three million dollars in their effort and every encouragement should be given to them to persist in this. If they succeed, Canada at large will gain much more than the companies shareholders.

It possesses no monopoly in the Alberta field. As Mr. Stillman points out, around each of the wells that it has drilled there are thousands of leases held by those who will profit if oil is struck. The federal treasury has been enriched by large sums through rentals and in case producing wells are obtained there will be much greater amounts collected in royalties.

To talk about the Imperial organization as if it were a public enemy is not only nonsense but dangerous nonsense. Idle chatter of this kind might quite conceivably help to bring about a abandonment of the search. At any rate it is only fair to recognize that in the policy that it has pursued the company has been doing a very real national service."

LET'S SEE

The oil companies in Houston and other Texas points are delivering gasoline from their tank wagons at sixteen cents per gallon, wine measure this would equal 20cets per gallon imperial measure. Coal oil is being delivered at eleven cents per gallon, which equals a fraction over 14 cents per gallon imperial measure. A few years ago the oil business in Texas was in the hands of the Standard and its subsidiaries, what now? True the Imperial Oil Co. do not possess a complete monopoly of the oil lands of Alberta, if they don't whose fault is it? Truly not the Journals. They glory that they have a monopoly in the development of oil and appear very anxious that no one else gets a chance to share in it. Who owns all the leases?

Let us look over the six Townships between Irma and Wainwright and see, where the thousands of independent leaseholders that surround all their locations are. On account of the Hudson Bay Co. taking part of the homestead land turned over to the government in the Buffalo Park, there are not as many leases available as in most districts. The Hudson Bay Co. have reserved the leases on their lands in this district for parties at present unknown to us. In Township 45, Range 7, W.4, there are 10,880 acres of government land available for leasing which has all been leased, to some twenty different parties. The Imperial Oil Co. only appear to hold 1920 acres being Sections 18, 29 & 30. The California Canadian Oil Company or Talpey Arnold Co. own 2720 acres just east of the Imperial well and includes everything within three miles of it except one lease of 160 acres. The Drumheller Oil Co. owns some 1600 acres east of this again. The British Petroleum owns around 1,000 acres along the north and east side of the township. The Irma Oil Co. owns six hundred acres in three different sections and the Baxter Lake Co. owns 320 acres leaving 1780 acres divided among 15 other parties. Within a two mile radius of the Fabyan well in this township only three leases can be touched that are owned by others than the Imperial Oil Co. In Township 46-7-4 there are some 10,560 acres of available leases and of these the Imperial owns 7,680 acres leaving 2,880 acres to be divided among some 17 syndicates or individual owners. In Township 45, Range 8, W.4, there are approximately 12,800 acres of leases of which the Imperial own at least 7,680 acres leaving 5,120 acres held by not over 8 other parties most of whom own leases in the other townships. In Township 46 R.8-4 there are some 11,680 acres of government leases of which the Imperial own 7,200 acres. The British Petroleum and Irma Oil Co. own 1,820 acres leaving some 2,660 acres for 15 other holders of leases. In Township 45, R.9-W4 there are some 14,080 acres of government leases of which the Imperial own about 7,680 acres. The Alberta Associated Oil Co. own 2,560 acres in this township which are supposed to be controlled by the Imperial. The Alberta Pacific Consolidated Co. owns 640 acres leaving 3,200 acres to be held by some twelve independent parties. It was in this township that quite a stir was caused last November when at a sale of cancelled leases at the Do-

The Norman Petroleum Fields

Prepared under the direction of Dr. Charles Camsell, Deputy Minister of Mines by Dr. G. S. Hume.

In the autumn of 1920 when word reached the public of an oil gusher at Norman in the Mackenzie River area, great excitement prevailed, with the result that many oil claims were staked. Due consideration, except by the larger companies, was not given to the difficulties of operation in so remote a locality and after the first wave of enthusiasm had subsided, there was the inevitable reaction. The oil well which gave so much promise in the beginning, gradually declined and by the autumn of 1921 the oil flow had practically ceased. This was interpreted by many as a condemnation of the field, a state of affairs which was not at all justified by the conditions.

When the gusher was "brought in" the bottom of the drill hole was still in a soft shale formation. As the pressure was great, it was inevitable that cavings of the shale into the hole would occur and consequently the passage for oil was gradually reduced until production ceased. With these conditions in mind, the Imperial Oil Company this past summer deepened the hole with most gratifying results. Another strong flow of oil was obtained amounting to 60 to 70 barrels per day and again the "gusher" spouted oil. The well is now capped, the oil being used as fuel in other drilling operations.

During the summer of 1921 the drilling of three other wells, which had previously been commenced was continued by the Imperial Oil Company. These wells are known as Bluefish Creek, Bear Island and "C" locations. Bear Island is an island of the Mackenzie about two miles from the original or No. 1 well, while "C" camp is on the west side of the Mackenzie. The Bluefish Creek location is 43 miles up the Mackenzie from No. 1 well and about 8 miles down from Norman. Drilling difficulties caused the temporary cessation of operations of all three wells but two drilling crews of the Imperial Oil Company are spending this winter (1922-23) in the Norman fields and the results of these wells ought to be available next summer.

During the summer's work for the Geological Survey, information was obtained which has an important bearing on the oil possibilities of this region. It was found that in the Fort Creek shale formation which is producing the oil, there exists at least one sandstone member 50 to 75 feet thick. As oil tends to accumulate in the more porous beds this sandstone may form a very important oil reservoir. Calculations based on the available information seem to show that the depth of No. 1 well is such that this sandstone horizon has been reached.

minion land office the Imperial bought all but forty acres of 4,000 acres of leases that had been cancelled for non-payment of dues or fulfillment of the required development. Most of these leases had been held since 1914 but owing to the pessimistic reports of oil in Alberta and the stringency of the money market the owners were unable to hold them longer or to get them developed. In Township 46, R. 9, W.4 there are around 11,680 acres of government leases of which the Imperial own 7,520 acres. The Irma Oil and British Petroleum between them own about 2,480 acres leaving 1680 acres for six other owners. In 1914 Irma had two companies, The Alberta Associated Oil Fields and Grattan Oil Co. making an honest effort to get oil. At that time practically all of the land now under lease was owned by parties, many of whom left everything they had to go overseas thinking the country would be developed by the time they returned. What happened? The Imperial Oil Co. secured both of these rigs and dismantled them at which time their men were very sure that many knew that there would be no more oil development in this part of Alberta. This resulted in the abandonment of practically all the leases which have been since filed in by the Imperial, and because a few independent companies are making an honest effort to secure oil which they claim they have not been able to find they wish to give the impression that no one else can find it. What has the Standard or its subsidiaries, the Magnolia, Texas, Gypsey, Sun & Humble and other big companies done in opening up new fields in different parts of the U. S. unless they controlled it hide and hare. It has been the little fellow who has done the trail blazing. Look at Oklahoma, Texas, California, Wyoming and Montana. Look at Mexia, Currie, Kosse, Burk Burnett, Cat Creek, Sunburst and Smackover, which have all been opened up by the little fellow, under the eyes of the Standard and their subsidiaries.

ed. If this proves to be the case and oil is struck, the flow is likely to be much more steady and continuous than if it came from a shale as was the case of the initial gusher. The shape of this sandstone member is important because of its bearing on the oil situation. It may be in the form of a lens surrounded by the more impervious shale. As such it would be very favorable for oil accumulation and preservation and there tapped oil wells would result. On the other hand, it may be more in the form of a sheet in which case it will likely be encountered in the other wells but the oil is apt to have a more local distribution and to be limited to the more porous parts of the sandstone itself. The drilling now going forward should to some measure determine these factors and the probability of the recurrence of other sandstone members in the shale should not be overlooked. None of the three wells now being drilled is yet deep enough to penetrate the sandstone horizon of No. 1 well.

East of No. 1 well about 8 miles the Norman ridge of mountains rises about 2,000 feet above the Mackenzie river. This mountain range is a gigantic fold or upwarp of the strata which accordingly dip westward or away from the mountains towards the Mackenzie and beyond. Between the Mackenzie and the mountain range the surface rock is mostly of two formations, either the Black Fort Creek shale already referred to or an overlying series of sandstones and shales known as the Bosworth formation. Both of these are of Devonian age. From the very beginning of drilling operations, the sandstone members of the Bosworth formation produced small flows of oil into the well. As these sandstones are not covered by any strata that could retain the oil it is inevitable that the oil should escape, resulting in numerous seeps, such as occur in this area. Owing to the westward dip of this strata, the Bosworth formation is covered on the west side of the Mackenzie by other formations of a later or Cretaceous age.

The lower part of these Cretaceous deposits is sandstone while the upper part is fine impervious shales that would be very suitable as a cover for the retention of oil. No drilling has yet been attempted through Cretaceous deposits but there is a large area to the west of the Mackenzie where if suitable structures are located, the chances for oil accumulations are very favorable.

An account of the structural and stratigraphical relationships of the Norman Oil Fields will be published in the Summary Report of the Geological Survey for 1922.

Oil Wealth of Texas Not Generally Appreciated ---Same As in Alberta

It is doubtful whether the average Texan realizes to what extent he is indebted to oil for the prosperity and progress of institutions around him. These institutions go to make up the atmosphere, the business health and growth upon which his own livelihood depends, and yet relatively few Texans really grasp the extent to which oil now figures in the balance sheet of Texas business. Cotton we know and appreciate. Cotton, we say, is king. And yet oil is second in Texas to but one industry. That industry is cotton.

Perhaps one reason why oil is not ordinarily ranked in our thoughts as high as it ranks in fact is that the chief oil production areas are limited as compared with the expanse of Texas as a whole. Another reason may be said to lie in the fact that oil production and handling is a business of specialists. A third reason, perhaps, is that oil is spectacular. We very rarely estimate the spectacular at its true value—we either overrate it or overrate it. Sometimes we merely gape and fail to make any intelligent rating at all.

Th figures show that in 1922 more than a hundred million barrels of oil went to market from Texas. The possibilities of a hundred million barrels of oil no man can tell. Possibilities from such a source are subject to doubling or trebling with the advancement of science. A simple change in the carburetor of the gasoline engine may double the potential mileage locked up in a hundred million barrels of oil. A slightly different method of handling the by products of refinement may be the creation of wholly new industries.

The existence of a great industry such as oil in a great agricultural state such as Texas is peculiarly fortunate, since the hazards of growing crops tend generally not to effect the production of wealth taken from the depths of the earth. The effect is not only to add to the total increment of wealth, but to stabilize it by diversifying the element of hazard. Then, too, oil offers a standing invitation to manufacturing enterprises for the want of which the raw materials of this state have been forced hitherto to seek outlets over long and expensive journeyings. Some day neither cotton nor oil may be in the lead in Texas, but in the stead we may have manufacturing as the leading industry, with oil as the fuel and lubrication factor and cotton as the raw material for its operation. It is this very basic character of oil's helpfulness to Texas that makes it worthy of consideration, conservation and orderly development.—Dallas News.

We believe Alberta holds just as big possibilities for oil as Texas. All it needs is a little co-operation of Albertans to get adequately regulations and actual development by the people, for the people of Alberta.

Wet Gas Struck in Okotoks Field

Calgary, Jan. 24.—One of the most significant oil strikes in the Alberta oil fields, and perhaps in all Canada, was announced today when the Alberta Illinois oil well in the Okotoks field of wet gas.

A Dominion government test showed the gas flow to be approximately four million cubic feet a day.

Much Gasoline
An analysis by those in charge of operations at the well reveals that the well in its present state is capable of yielding three thousand gallons of pure gasoline each day.

In addition it will produce a fuel gas flow more than sufficient to augment the Calgary gas supply for many years to come.
A hurried test made by Charles Dingman, government petroleum and gas inspector, of the wet gas flow and the gauge showed that there is a flow of gas nearly 3,312,766 cubic feet, a rock pressure of 820 pounds, with the quality of the gas fairly wet.
Late last night reports from the field indicated that there was an assurance of a greater volume in the immediate future. Arrangements have been completed to install a much heavier valve to enable the flow to be placed under control at once, and it is expected this will be achieved within the next 24 hours.

Boffert Oil, Ltd., will get heavier machine this week. Hole must be reamed all the way down, and casing has been pulled in preparation therefore.

British Oil Securities, Ltd., is financing the Canadian-United States Oil & Refining Company, it is reported, and later will drill near Imperial test west of Cousta.

WYOMING-MONT. WILL HAVE SPOTLIGHT N OIL INDUSTRY IN 1923, O. & G. JOURNAL

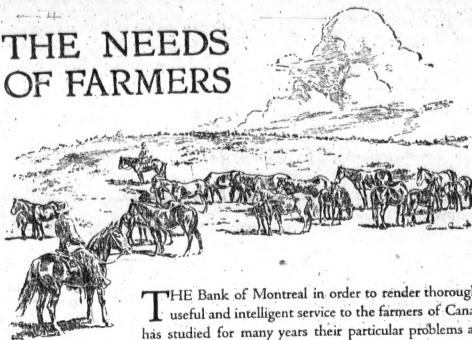
During the last six years 156,990 wells were drilled east of the Rocky Mountains. Of these 33,324 were failures, 12,844 were gas wells and the remaining 110,222 showed initial production of 16,389,285 barrels, or a per well average of 14,769 barrels says the Oil & Gas Journal, nationally recognized authority on the oil industry.

"With no new pools of consequence, with the exception of Smackover, in sight in the Mid-Continent field, which is producing at the present time nearly 1,000,000 barrels of the total domestic production, interest in 1923 will centre on the Wyoming-Montana area where, during 1922, 402 producers out of a total of 462 completions showed a total of 214,971 barrels of initial production or an average of 537.78 barrels per well.

"This territory, due to inadequate marketing facilities, has never had an opportunity of demonstrating its real productivity and wells are now only being flowed at 40 per cent of capacity."

Dutch Shell is accused of having tried to buy McLean, Sweet Grass Oil Holdings, Ltd., and other companies, outright. Calgary papers say it would be a good idea for Dutch Shell to take over Border field so that Great Britain could drop Mesopotamia, or Iraq, owing "to the enormous expenditures entailed, which are causing a widespread agitation among the people of Great Britain. The hold in Mesopotamia by the British Government can be said to be greatly due to the presence of the oilfields there."

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IRMA TIMES

The Alberta Oil Gazette
Irma, Alberta, Canada

An independent newspaper published every Friday at Irma, Alberta, Canada, by The Times publishers.

Subscription Rates:

Canada, one year, in advance	\$2.00
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He Had Reasons.

One of our citizens who for many years had received a Christmas cheque from a brother in Chicago, received the following letter explaining why the annual present was not forthcoming last Christmas day.

"I have been held up, held down, sand-bagged, walked on, sat on, flattened out and squeezed. First by the federal government for income tax, excise tax, excess profits tax, luxury tax, auto tax, merchants tax, and by every society and organization that inventive mind can suggest to extract what I may or may not possess.

"From the society of John the Jew, the Green Cross, the Black Cross, the Double Cross, the Armenian Relief, the Jewish relief, hobo relief, society for relief of blind mice, and any and all other societies in town.

"The government has so governed my business that I don't know who owns it. I was inspected, suspected, examined, informed and required and commanded—so I don't know who I am, where I am, or why I am here.

"All I know is that I am supposed to be an inexhaustible supply of money for every human need, desire, or hope of the human race, and because I will not sell all I have, and go out and beg, borrow or steal money to give away, I have been cursed, discussed, boycotted, talked to, talked about, lied to, lied about, held up, hung up, robbed and nearly ruined and the only reason I am clinging to life is to see what in the blazes is coming next.

Keep Informed

If you want to make money in the Central Alberta Oil Fields you should read the Irma Times regularly.

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UNIQUE TREASURE OFTEN FOUND IN GRAIN ELEVATOR

The last place in the world—one would expect to find a unique treasure hunt taking place is in the interior of a great grain elevator. Yet every year during the three autumn months, from September to November when the wonderful "wheat rush" takes place from Western Canada, occurs a queer treasure hunt in the huge terminal elevators at the lake port of Fort William, Ontario, where tens of millions of bushels pour in from the prairies for transshipment across the great lakes.

From all parts of the great Canadian west tens of thousands of wheat laden freight cars come hurrying into Fort William, each car to be dumped in a few moments time.

At the elevator the men in charge of the "cleansers" watch the golden grain as it pours through, to see what strange treasures the cleansers will winnow from the yellow flooding tide of cereal. The most common articles to be sifted out from the grain are of various lengths and size. When it is taken into consideration that harvesters are continually using knives for cutting binder twine, it is easily understood how so many knives get mislaid and eventually find their way into the grain. Hundreds are annually salvaged from the wheat. Bottles of liquor and many more bottles empty the cleansers separate from the wheat. Probably the full ones come from traps or smugglers, and the grain offers a handy place to hoboes to throw empty ones when they have finished drinking. Paper bundles containing left over meat scraps are also common. An odd find made recently was a side of bacon. Hammers, saws, wrenches and other tools are fairly common. Now and then a cheap watch bobs up; at longer intervals a gold one. Occasionally a ring is found, and very often bundles of keys. Letters bank books, uncashed checks make their appearance more often than the average man would expect. In one case the owner of uncashed checks worth several hundred dollars was located; the checks had travelled nearly a thousand miles in the wheat.

A dead prairie chicken in a fair state of preservation once reached the terminal elevator. A cat alive, though very weak and almost suffocated came pouring out with the grain. It was revived and adopted at the elevator. Stranger still was the arrival of a human corpse, that of a man who had been hurriedly placed on top of the wheat at a lonely way point where passenger trains did not stop in order to get him to the city. Unfortunately the word of the body's coming was mislaid and so it was added to the list of strange finds. A cash register empty, and a pair of lady's new, dancing shoes with silk stockings carefully tucked in are two more articles whose presence in the wheat is particularly mysterious.

How all these things got into the wheat would make a wonderfully interesting story if it were possible to trace them back. But as it is not, one can only conjecture on the queer causes that led them to be there.

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SAW OIL AT IRMA.

Calgary, Alta., Jan. 20, 1923
Editor, Alberta Oil Gazette
Irma, Alta.
Dear Sir:—

In a recent letter by Mr. Stillman of The Imperial Oil and copied by the Edmonton Journal in their of Jan. 18 we note that Mr. Stillman is very anxious to impress on the public that no oil has been found at Irma.

Also on Jan. 19th in the editorials of the Journal we are told of the wonderful things done and to be done for the Dominion of Canada by the Imperial Oil Co.

It is too bad that a concern that is so anxious to see the Dominion go ahead and the natural resources developed should be compelled to have to answer criticism thrown at them through the press. Could you not do something to clear this misunderstanding up, get the facts and publish them? I have a few questions in mind which I would like very much to see answered in your paper.

Was the three million dollars spent for drilling by the Imperial Oil Co. paid out of the pockets of the six thousand shareholders or was it profit from the operations of the company.

What dividends did the Imperial Oil Co. pay in the last three years.

Did the Imperial Oil Co. pay income tax on any portion of the three million spent for development work.

Why the big difference in the cost of all oil products between Canada and the U. S. During the War we understand that crude oil cost as high as \$6 per barrel according to Great Falls Mont. papers we notice that crude is worth to day 70c per barrel. Why is gasoline and other oil products not cheaper.

Would it be to the best interests of the Imperial Oil Co. to bring in more wells in Alberta. If a good field was opened up in Alberta would it not bring in considerable competition and spoil some of the good business that the Imperial Oil Co. enjoy to-day.

It is common rumor that the Fabyan well cost \$250,000.00, why this cost when drilling contractors are willing to drill to a depth of 3,000 feet for \$30,000.00 where casing is furnished. And further, the investigation by the Public Utilities Board into the Edmonton gas deal showed that a well to a depth of 2,200 feet could be drilled for \$20,000.00 or less. We understand the Fabyan well is around 2,600 feet deep.

The Fabyan well took a year to complete. Many days were spent in actual work on the well and how many waiting for material to work with.

If the Government set a price on all oil products giving a fair return for money invested and taxed the public 10c per gallon on gasoline and a like percentage on all other oil products, and used the money for development work would our gas and oil cost us any more than it does today.

Do you not think that the Government could drill wells as cheap as the Imperial Oil Co. taking the Fabyan or Czar wells for example.

As to the oil which is claimed was not found at Fabyan, we saw it, and so did several hundred other people. The Edmonton papers gave the test of this oil.

We saw the oil running down over the bank away from the derrick. We saw it spattered over buildings and trees nearly a quarter mile from the well. It looked like oil, smelled like oil, and it was oil.

We could not say that it was there in commercial quantities or that it was a high grade oil, but it was oil and quite a lot of it.

We hoped Mr. Editor you will be able to get the answers to most of the questions asked. We have just one more.

Some of our most conservative geologists believe the Irma field the best prospect in Alberta today; WHY does the Edmonton Journal knock the field.

Yours truly,

OBSERVER

We are always glad to receive enquiries pertaining to the Irma district but we are afraid we will have to pass up some of these questions, however we will make an attempt at some of them.

We would think that the money spent in drilling would be paid out of profits.

We are unable to give any reason for the difference in price of oil products in Canada and the U. S. The oil producers in Northern Montana have formed an association and are advocating for more refineries. Sunburst crude has increased to \$1.10 per bbl. and Cat Creek to \$1.75. The President of the Imperial Oil Co. states that it is not only to their best interests but to the interests of the whole country that they try to bring in more wells. If we were in a position and owned a number of expensive refineries, distribution stations and controlled the market for practically all of Canada, at a good price, and if by buying the product of crude oil

HOCKEY TEAMS

SHOWING UP WELL

Last week two hockey games were played on the new rink at Irma. Thursday evening the high school boys with the assistance of two Lewisville boys lined up against a picked team from the village. George Armstrong and Tom Askin did the scoring for the high school boys while Mr. Lewis and Ross McFarland got in some effective work for the villagers. The game resulted in a 4-1 score against the high school aggregation. Mr. J. Armstrong handled the ball and proved a very satisfactory referee.

Saturday afternoon the Wainwright Trail Rangers came to Irma and gave the Irma Trail Rangers some good points on the game which resulted in a score of 6-3 in favor of the visiting team. The Wainwright boys showed that they had more class in their playing than the Irma boys who have only just started out to practice, but with a few more games the Irma Rangers will soon be able to make as good a showing in hockey as they did last summer in baseball.

Irma
L. Aykroyd, Goal G. Glasgow
J. McLeod Defence W. Mitchell
W. Ormond, F. Geo. Fischer
J. Carroll Forward A. Tucker
J. Laderie Forward Sid Bibbie
P. Wolkins, Forward E. Richardson
Ed. Springer, Sub. D. Peterson
Bud Maybee Sub.
Wilkins and Carroll were the stars on the Wainwright team while Tucker and Glasgow showed the best form among the Irma boys.

The Irma Trail Rangers will play a return game on the Wainwright rink on Saturday, February 3rd.

ACQUITTED CHARGE

AUTOMOBILE ARSON

Luther Hubbs, of Irma, Alta., was acquitted by judge and jury in the supreme criminal court on the charge of arson. Hubbs was accused of setting fire to an automobile truck so as to fraudulently secure insurance from the Merchants Casualty company in the sum of \$680. After an all day trial Friday the jury sitting on the case after an hour's deliberation brought in a verdict of not guilty at 10 p. m.

LEWISVILLE TRIM

IRMA IN HOCKEY

Thursday afternoon the Lewisville Hockey players played the Irma team at Irma and after some very exciting playing beat them by one goal, the score being 2 to 1 in favor of Lewisville.

LEWISVILLE

Hockey is the main subject of conversation hereabouts.

Last week the house on "the McIntyre place" was burned down. Dallas Smith and family have been living in it. Dallas was away at the time and his wife, also had taken two of the children with her and run over to a neighbors, leaving a very tiny boy at home. When she came back the house was almost burned to the ground, but fortunately the wee fellow had some enough to go outside and thus escaped an awful death.

At the annual meeting of J. J. Armstrong, the retiring trustee, was unopposed, and was declared elected by acclamation.

The scheme of transporting the children to Strawberry Plains has proved satisfactory all round, the work being faithfully done by Mike Cravenchuk.

With the mild winter all stock around here is "hog fat", and lots of feed no matter what the rest of the winter will be.

from adjoining fields at a very reasonable price, thereby eliminating the danger of competition from other farmers and distributing agencies, retaining our own crude oil till the other fellows was used up, we think we might try it, we hope though that the Imperial or any other company would not attempt such a scheme as it would be very hard on the owners of automobiles and gasoline engines.

We don't know what the Fabyan well cost but have been told it should have been drilled in at least 100 days we know the men lost a lot of time doing nothing. It looks as if the government should at least spend part of the hundreds of thousands that the Imperial have paid for leases and the money that has been paid by the thousands of independent owners of leases surrounding all of their locations, in trying to develop their natural resources.

The Canadian Annual Review for 1920 states that the Imperial Oil Co. had an authorized capital of \$50,000,000.00 its yearly dividend was 12 per cent; it was a subsidiary of the Standard Oil and its President, W. C. Teagle, became, in 1919 the President of the great American Corporation. We don't think it would pay income tax on money spent for drilling or development work.

Main Street

George W. Masie was solicitor for the defendant in the action.

Mrs. Ross McFarland is spending a few days in Edmonton.

Mr. J. H. Elliott left Wednesday morning to attend the Fairs convention at Calgary.

Mrs. Jardine has been visiting with friends at Edmonton during the last week.

Eric Richardson has been taking in the sights at the capital during the last two or three days.

Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Jones were visitors in Viking last Monday. Percy reports his father as getting along very nicely.

Mr. H. U. Western supervisor of the S. S. B. for Wainwright district has been visiting some of the S. S. B. residents of Irma the last week.

Corporal Duncan, of Wainwright made an official visit to Irma Wednesday.

Mr. M. M. Downey, of the liquor act commissioners staff was in Irma last Friday making an official visit.

Mr. H. Knudson made a business trip to Tofield Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. McRoberts have been visiting friends in Edmonton.

Mrs. H. W. Love and Miss Grace Love have spent the week in Edmonton.

Mr. Derratt, the local driver, has been spending a few days at his old home town in Saskatchewan.

We are glad to report that Miss Lila Maguire is around again after being confined to the house with a bad cold.

The carpenter work is practically completed at the new creamery, the new boiler and engine have been installed and Mr. G. A. Sisson is busy filling up the ice house with a supply of ice. Everything will be in shape for opening as soon as a sufficient supply of cream is available.

McDowell keeps repairs for your accommodation. Buy your drill, plow, disc or cultivator where you get service.

Commencing next Sunday service will start in the Irma church at 7:30 P. M. instead of eight o'clock. Come.

The Irma Ladies Aid met at the early and get a good seat.

Home of Mrs. Graydon Thursday afternoon. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Elford.

The Farmers Mutual Lumber Co. have a car of Headlight coal on the track to-day.

The British Petroleum are down 1550 feet in hard rock. They are pounding away steadily.

Why do without—or pay cash for Gasoline Engines or Cream Separators—when McDowell can sell you the best on the market and extend time up to two falls on same.

Wednesday evening the members of the G. W. V. A. social committee put on a dance for the benefit of Mr. E. Sharkey and family. Messrs. Herbert and Lee, assisted by other local talent, donated the music. Mr. Ledin donated the hall. A good crowd turned out and an enjoyable time was had. The total receipts were \$53.50; amusement tax \$5.30; \$48.20 was turned over to Mr. L. C. Hatch, trustee for the fund.

U. F. W. A.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Watkinson, Thursday February 1st.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to extend sincere and heartfelt thanks to all neighbors and friends who so kindly gave assistance during our recent sad bereavement.

E. Sharkey and family

U. F. A. BOX SOCIAL

The Irma U.F.A. are planning a very pleasant and busy evening on Friday February 2nd when they intend giving three shows in one. Five new reels have been ordered and promptly at 8 p. m. they intend giving a good moving picture show. As soon as the pictures are over they intend having a Box Social which will be followed by a dance. This is the first social evening the U. F. A. have planned this winter and it is their intention to have others during the winter months. Ladies are requested to bring boxes.

KILLING OFF SURPLUS BUFFALO

Six buffalo were slaughtered last week in the Wainwright National Park. Two carcasses were shipped to Montreal to be barbecued during the winter carnival in that city. One was divided between the mounted police at the annual dinner at Edmonton and the Calgary Old Timers celebration. The remaining carcasses are awaiting disposition by the park authorities. The heads and hides were shipped to Edmonton to be dressed and mounted.

Alberta's Premier Jewelers

MAKE US YOUR JEWELRY HEADQUARTERS
WATCHES, SILVERWARE, DIAMONDS,
CUT GLASS, FANCY JEWELRY, CLOCKS, Etc.
SEND US YOUR WATCH & JEWELRY REPAIRS
EXPERT WORKMANSHIP, QUICK SERVICE

H. B. Kline & Sons Ltd

10069 Jasper Ave. EDMONTON, ALBERTA Next to Allan Theatre

DERMAN'S DRUG STORE, Local Agents

SWAP

Advertisements under this heading will be inserted free for two weeks for any subscriber, limit 50 words for each advertisement.

HORSES—Will swap team of heavy work horses for cattle.—P. E. Jones.

WILL SWAP—Ten full-blooded S. C. White Leghorns for hog. The rooster cost \$15.00.—P. E. Jones.

POWER WASHING MACHINE will swap. Power washing machine with one and half H. P. engine for Oats.—Box 87, Irma.

WANT ADS.

NOTICE—Any one knowing location of any stray cattle branded, S2 over half circle, J6 under half diamond, 2 reversed L under half diamond, all on right shoulder; or A233, A234, A235, A236, A237, all over lazy X on right ribs. Suitable reward. Please notify G. A. Sisson, Irma. 36-39-P.

FOR SALE—SEED OATS, Registered Banner, two years removed from germination one car load, make off registered seed. Test 98 per cent. —Shotts & Sawden, Irma, Alta. 37-42P.

IMPOUNDED—One two year old red and white steer, white markings on face, branded indistinctly on left shoulder.—George Grant, Poundkeeper N.W. 1-4 Sec. 24-46-10.

WANTED TO BUY—A few good fresh milch cows.—See J. E. Love, Irma.

FOR SALE—3 Registered Hereford Bulls one year old. All from good big stock. They cannot be beaten in the ring. For particulars apply to A. G. Walker, Delacour, Alta. 39-43-c

IMPOUNDED—Notice is hereby given that one roan heifer, white head, white under body, rising four years, has horns, no visible brands, was impounded in pound kept by the undersigned on the N. E. 1-4 of Sec. 22-45-7, on 27th day of December, 1922. Owner pay expenses and remove same.—A. L. DETRICH, Fabyan, Alta. 38-39.

HEMSTITCHING AND PICKING attachment, fits any sewing machine. Price \$2.50. Personal cheque 10c extra. Star Sales Agency, Box 122, Regina, Sask. 40-6

All those owing on subscription to this paper are asked to renew same as soon as possible.

When in Calgary Stop at —

The HOTEL ALEXANDRA

"THE HOUSE OF COMFORT"

Free Bus. Free Telephone Fire Proof
Rates—\$1 \$1.50 and \$2. With bath \$2 & \$2.50
226—9th Ave. East.

Labor Charges Reduced

ON AUTO REPAIR WORK

a Change in Labor Charges Commencing January 1st and continuing until April 1st has been made. This should induce car owners to have their repair work done before the busy season opens. For Prices Enquire at the Garage

GASOLINE, KEROSENE, and OIL

DODGE LIVERY, AUTO ACCES.

EXPERT WORKMANSHIP, SOLDERING
24 HOUR SERVICE

E. L. Elford IRMA

BUY A FARM While Land is Cheap

THE IRMA DISTRICT OFFERS EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEN WISHING GOOD GRAIN OR STOCK FARMS

Good soil, the finest grass in Alberta, plenty of good water, good railway accommodation, English speaking settlers, land values that are bound to increase. Irma is situated on the Canadian National Railway, (G. T. P. Division), one hundred and ten miles southeast of Edmonton, has the best prospects of large oil and gas developments in the province, three elevators, three general stores, two lumber yards, Bank of Montreal branch, butcher shop, stock yards, hardware store, garage, barber shop, public and high school, church, one of the most modern creameries in the province and every business needed to make a good live town. Irma has long been noted for the excellent quality of grain and cattle raised on its farms. The grand champion shorthorn steer at the recent show held at Guelph, Ont., was from J. G. Clark & Sons farm near Irma. Following are a few listings of farms near Irma. If you are in a position to buy a good farm, either for an investment or a future home, come to Irma and look these over. For further particulars write to Irma Farm Exchange, Irma, Alberta.

Listing No. 1—\$1000.00 cash, balance easy terms, 160 acres, good heavy soil, surface rolling with good bluffs. One mile from school, four miles from Irma, good wire fence, 30 acres has been broken, watered by good slough. Price \$15.00 per acre.

Listing No. 2—\$2500.00 cash, balance arranged, 320 acres, 100 acres ready to crop, good four room house, stabling for 40 head of stock, garage, good well, heavy black loam clay subsoil, all fenced, with woven wire, half mile from Irma, an ideal dairy farm. Price per acre \$22.00

Listing No. 3—\$1000.00 cash, balance easy terms, 160 acres, two miles from school, four miles from Jarow, seven miles from Irma, fenced and cross fenced, 30 acres broken, four room frame house, small barn, good well, plenty of open range. Price per acre \$15.00.

Listing No. 4—\$500.00 Cash, balance easy terms, 160 acres, good heavy soil, surface rolling with good bluffs. One mile from school, four miles from Irma, good wire fence, 30 acres has been broken, watered by good slough. Price \$15.00 per acre.

Listing No. 5—\$2500.00 cash, 158 acres, well improved, good well, all tillable, 85 acres broken, 10 acres brush, all fenced with 3 wires, good well, five room house, barn 30x50 ft., good granary, pump house, chicken house 12x16, ice house 8x8, school on place, five miles from Irma, price per acre \$35.00.

Listing No. 6—\$2500.00 cash, 160 acres, well improved, good soil, 50 acres broken, all fenced, good well, house 14x16 with upstairs, barn 32x40, good loft, school one mile, two and a half miles from Irma. Price per acre \$30.00.

Listing No. 7—\$500.00 Cash, balance arranged at 6 per cent. 160 acres, 40 acres broken, good well, plastered house, barn 16 x 24 for six horses, good soil, only 1-2 miles from Irma, a big snap at \$15.00 per acre.

Listing No. 8—\$500.00 Cash, balance arranged on easy terms, just the place for a nice poultry or dairy farm, 154 acres heavy soil, 30 acres broke balance nearly all open pasture, fenced and cross fenced, good well, three room house, 14 x 30 feet with 8 x 12 ft lean to, frame barn 16 x 26, Tool barn 16 x 32 feet, granary 6 x 14 ft, good hen house 12 x 20 ft. Price per acre \$12.00. 2 1-2 miles from Irma.

IRMA TIMES, FAMILY HERALD & WEEKLY STAR, CANADIAN POWER FARMER, (All for \$2.00 per year.)

IRMA TIMES, FREE PRESS PRAIRIE FARMER, CANADIAN POWER FARMER, (All for \$2.00 per year.)

"Motor in Canada" may be substituted for Canadian Power Farmer in either list. Send all Subscriptions to IRMA TIMES, Irma, Alta.

GO TO CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY
Going to church may be a habit. Even so, we must admit that it is a very good habit. Many men and women go to church who are not church members, and who never even expect to become members of any religious body, but simply because they appreciate the refining influence of the service.

We have an excellent church here in this town. We have an eloquent minister in the pulpit. The music in our church is exceedingly attractive to those who have adequate notion of the good things of life.

Suppose you decide to go to church next Sunday. It will do you good. You will be fully rewarded in going. Perhaps you have not been in years.

Annual Forage Crops

"Free Range" is a relic of the early days in Western live stock raising, and with the high price of farm land and the even higher taxes, "wild land" pasture and hay land will soon be almost unknown. During the last three or four dry years the majority of wild land areas have produced barely enough hay or pasture to pay taxes let alone help to pay for the land or pay returns on the investment. While this has been the case the numbers of horses, cattle and sheep that must be fed have been steadily increasing. For both reasons farmers are becoming interested in cultivated forage crops.

In the drier areas of the West it is doubtful if under dry farming methods the precipitation is sufficient to produce profitable permanent hay or pasture crops. It is extremely difficult to secure a "catch" of clover or grasses and even if a stand of these cultivated grasses is secured, one, or at most two crops will exhaust the moisture in the soil and the succeeding crops will be failures. During dry years these statements apply to all but the northern districts of the prairie provinces.

Under dry conditions annual forage crops have given much better returns for both summer pasture and winter feed. One of the best pasture crops has been produced from sowing two bushels of oats and one bushel of winter rye per acre. It seeded early the oats will be six inches high, and ready to pasture, long before any grass pastures are ready. The oats will provide good spring and summer pasture and fall rye will come in later and provide good late pasture until freeze. This pasture crop is not injured by spring and fall frosts and if seeded on properly prepared land it will stand considerable drought much more than will grass pastures. The fall rye will provide the earliest pasture for the following spring and if not closely pastured in fall and spring will produce a crop which may be used for hay, silage, or grain. Another good pasture mixture is oats and peas, but the peas are expensive and difficult to secure and if the season is dry give very poor returns.

The standard forage crop of the West, for both hay and green feed is oats. For this purpose Banner oats are the best variety, as the stems are fine and leafy and cut early for hay, and if cut later for green feed the straw is fine and also the grain, if cut a little late, is well retained in the head. From 2 1-2 to 3 bushels per acre should be sown, depending mainly on the amount of moisture in the soil. Both fall and spring rye produce good hay if cut green, but the hay is coarser, more difficult to cure than oat hay and not so palatable.

During the last few years many more silos have been built and proven successful and low costs of construction of both the pit and trench silos ensilage crops will be much more in demand. Almost any crop from Russian thistles to corn may be converted into good ensilage. The essentials are that the crop is fairly well matured, but not ripe, and that it be cut fine and thoroughly tramped into the silo so as to prevent access of air. The best silo crops are oats and sunflowers. Corn is probably the best if it can be grown to the dough stage of the ears but in almost all parts of the central and northern districts of the Prairie Provinces this is rarely possible.

Experiments have been tried at the Experimental Station with many other annual forage crops. The most important have been vetches, the millets, and the much advertised Sudan grass. Vetches require much more moisture than we usually receive. The millets and Sudan grass require a warm moist season. They make slow growth during our cool early summer weather; the young plants are very easily killed by June frosts and the first fall frost stops all growth. Millets may be worthy of a trial but it is a waste of money to try Sudan grass.

IMMIGRATION

Hon. R. G. Reid, minister of health and municipal affairs, returned the past week from Ottawa, where he attended the conference of dominion and provincial cabinet ministers on the problem of immigration. Mr. Reid made it plain to the conference that Alberta was not in a position to encourage any wholesale immigration at the present time, but was prepared to absorb new settlers who had sufficient capital to establish themselves. He also pointed out that the province was seeking irrigation farmers particularly, for the new irrigation districts being opened up in the south.

TRUSTEES CONVENTION

Alberta school trustees are to meet in convention in Calgary February 7 and 8. It is expected that over one thousand delegates will be in attendance. At 7.30 P. M.

Quality Merchandise ::

Special Prices on Seasonable Goods

BY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THESE WEEKLY SAVINGS YOU MAY PURCHASE A LOT OF SEASONABLE GOODS OF THE BEST QUALITY AT A VERY LOW PRICE. MAKE USE OF THESE SPECIALS.

MENS EXTRA HEAVY PURE WOOL COMBINATIONS In all sizes. A warm, durable garment that has sold all season at \$3.95. **Special \$2.95.**

WOMANS SPATS—Our stock of Spats, all sizes that were regular up to \$1.75. **Special \$1.00.**

BOYS SWEATERS—A line of Wool Worsted Sweaters in Brown, Navy and Maroon. All sizes, that sold at \$2.00. **Special \$1.45.**

MEN'S CAPS—All Men's Caps at Clearing Prices. Reg. up to \$3.00. **Special \$1.95.**

BLANKETS—Heavy Grey Union Blankets, large size, Reg. \$6.50. **Special \$4.95.**

FLANNELETTE

Striped Flannelette in Blue, Grey and Pink grounds, 30 inches wide, and good strong quality has sold all season at 25c.

SPECIAL 17 1-2c

MEN!

Heavy Leather Vests with Mackinaw lining. Heavy Corduroy Vest with Sheepskin lining. Regular price up to \$6.

CLEARING AT \$3.95

WOMANS

Vests and Drawers

Mordies Hygiene. A good strong serviceable garment that is well made and Good Fitting. Just a few of them so get these at once.

ALL CLEARING 75c ea.

J. C. McFarland & Co.

Silos and Silage for Dairy Cows

The time has long since passed when a silo ceased to be an experiment. No matter in what section of this broad country of ours a dairy farmer may be located he can use a silo and some form of silage to advantage. Briefly, the advantages of having a silo lies in the fact that it provides cheap, succulent, nutritious, palatable feed throughout the winter months and even during the dry spells in summer if necessary. This in turn makes for healthy, thrifty cattle and economical production of milk.

Silos may be made of wood in various forms, of solid cement, or of concrete blocks, or even in holes in the ground lined with cement, the latter being known as pit silos. The prospective builder must choose the type best suited to his conditions and capital. Properly built, any one of them will keep the silage. The four fundamental factors in a silo are strength to resist the pressure the silage exerts; close construction so as to exclude all air; smooth straight walls to prevent the settling of the silage in the silo; and a handy means of getting out the silage. As regards design, the large diameter silo costs less per ton capacity than the smaller, both being the same height; of two silos of the same diameter, the higher gives a greater capacity per foot height than the lower. The silo which provides proper storage for silage at the least cost per ton is the silo to build.

Silage may be made from quite a large variety of farm crops, including corn, sunflowers, peas, oats, and some of the grasses. Of the above vetch mixture, sweet clover, red clover mentioned crops, corn, where it can be grown, is the ideal crop as it gives good yields and makes an excellent quality of silage. If unable to grow corn, sunflowers are about the best substitute in most localities but they do not make as palatable a form of silage. These two crops are to be specially recommended as they are sown in drills and intertilled, consequently help to keep the land free of weeds. The other crops mentioned all make good silage if ensiled in proper condition, but do not yield as heavily per acre. Mixtures of these latter crops would make as good and in some cases better silage than the single crop, particularly if corn forms a fairly large part of the mixture.

To make good silage, the crop must be cut in the field and put into the silo while still fairly green and juicy.

It must be cut in short enough lengths to pack well and it must be packed well. As a rule, crops with solid stems make better silage than those with hollow stems as the latter carry too much air in the hollow spaces which cannot be entirely pressed out. Too much air means too much fermentation and mouldy spots in the silage. This may be overcome by thorough tramping in the silo and by moistening the material with water when filling the silo, if it is too dry. Better silage results in a silo filled to the top and re-filled after settling than one only partly filled owing to extra pressure. Frost does not injure the silage in a silo provided it is used as soon as it thaws out, which it should always be allowed to do before being given to the cattle.

SEED GRAIN EXHIBITION

Despite the rather disappointing year with respect to grain crops, the annual provincial seed fair held the past week at Edmonton was a remarkable success. There were over three hundred exhibits of seed grain of all classes, and these included some of the finest seed ever produced in the province. Some of the grain which took prizes at the Chicago international was exhibited at Edmonton. About fifty per cent of the exhibits were of registered seed, which is a big advance over last year. The boys and girls exhibit was a new feature this year, and produced some very fine samples. The special prize for Marquis wheat was taken by A. Loughheed of Bowden, and the special for oats was taken by J. W. Biglands of Lacombe. The special for potatoes was won by A. V. Farnsworth, Brooks. There was a splendid exhibit of seed corn. Brooks agricultural society won first for the best all round exhibit by agricultural societies, the society at Bowden winning second, and that at High River winning third. Harold Taylor, Strathmore, won first for weed collection, second by Nettie Taylor, Strathmore, third by Norman Loughheed, Bowden. First prize for the essay on weed control was won by Norman Loughheed, Bowden, second by Harold Taylor, Strathmore, third by Nettie Taylor, Strathmore, fourth by Robert Climie, Strathmore, and fifth by Chas. Boland, Strathmore. Prizes in the seed show were well distributed over the large number of exhibitors from all parts of the province. The judging competition for teams from the schools of agriculture, was won by the Olds team, with Claresholm second and Vermilion third.

Now is the time to pay your subscription to the Irma Times.

CRUDE OIL IS NOW BUBBLING FROM MCLEAN OIL WELL

Lethbridge, Jan. 23.—Increased gas pressure was noticed in the McLean oil well Monday and real crude oil is brought to the surface with each bailing. At times the oil has forced itself through the enormous pressure of 2,000 feet of water. The bit is now in what is believed to be a pay sand. It is considered likely that the drill will be carried down a few more feet before a decision is reached as to setting the casing. The well stands at 2,750 feet.

PRODUCING MILK

Among my neighbors is a chap with such a friendly, genial map, his milk cows do not care a rap for any stunt he pulls. And all his cattle like him so, they just produce good milk and grow—the things he wants they seem to know, from new born calves to bulls. If some old rip, some bovine yeg, should blaze away and break a peg for this old boy, he'd run HER leg and say: "So, bossy cow." He never lets his temper rise, the piece that from his shin bone flies brings forth a look of mild surprise upon his classic brow. He rubs her gently on the back and doesn't seem to take a crack at her old bean, nor yet to hack around from off her loin. He says: "Such actions do not pay; you can't make cows give milk that way, and I work sixteen hours a day to gather in some coin." He says that dogs were likely fine in sixteen hundred eighty-nine, "but no hamstringing hounds for mine in nineteen twenty-three." His cows stroll homeward twice a day to get their greens and pickled hay, he has to bug them not to stay when all the chores are through. This man is healthy, rich and wise; he has a wife of ample size and kids that take a county prize when competition's hot. He lives on cream and cherry pies and when this model farmer dies he'll win a mansion in the skies besides the one he's got.

WAINWRIGHT BOY INSTANTLY KILLED IN RAILWAY YARDS

Fergus John Sutherland, age 12, son of car foreman J. Sutherland, of the Canadian Pacific Railway, was instantly killed in the local yards at 2.30 on Saturday afternoon, Jan. 22, when the wheels of a freight train passed over the boy's head, completely severing the head from the body. Young Sutherland was in company with another boy at the time of the accident. It is believed that he attempted to pass between two box cars as the train started to pull out and slipped and fell with fatal results.